



COVID-19 Outbreak Management Plan



SCHOOL NAME:	Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Nursery
DATE:	04/01/22
Carried out by:	J. Mullally (HT), L. Crabb (DHT, H&S Rep)
Approved by Governing Body:	Approved

This Outbreak Management Plan (OMP) outlines how the school will operate if additional measures are recommended for our setting or the local area. The school will only implement some, or all, of the measures in this plan in response to recommendations provided by the Director of Public Health, Public Health England Health Protection Teams or the Local Authority.

It may be necessary to implement these measures in the following circumstances, for example:

- to help manage a COVID-19 outbreak in the school
- if COVID-19 infection rates in the community are extremely high, and other measures have failed to reduce transmission
- as part of measures responding to a 'variant of concern'

Department for Education guidance states:

If a school has several cases of confirmed cases within 10 days, or an overall rise in sickness absence where COVID-19 is suspected, there may be an outbreak, in line with the following thresholds:

- 5 children, pupils or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely (siblings/in one class or group), test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period
- 10% of children, pupils or staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

Outbreaks require early identification. Teachers and school staff should be on the lookout for children exhibiting infectious symptoms:

- high temperature
- new persistent cough
- loss of smell
- loss of taste

ISSUE	CONTROL MEASURES What will we do to make things safe?	ACTION REQUIRED What will we do to reduce any risks to a tolerable level? What procedures will we have?
PUPILS ATTENDING ON-SITE PROVISION	If there is significant concern that existing or recently introduced measures in an area have failed to mitigate community transmission, or that a more robust response is required to contain the outbreak of a VoC it may be	Attendance restrictions will only be considered as a last resort following the DfE's 'contingency framework' and, in collaboration with public health and the local authority. If attendance restrictions are recommended, we will implement the measures outlined

necessary to limit the number of children and young people in education or childcare settings through attendance restrictions.

below:

In the first instance, we will stay open for:

- vulnerable pupils
- children of critical workers
- Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils

If further restrictions are recommended, we will stay open for:

- vulnerable pupils
- children of critical workers

We may also limit access to before- and after-school activities and wraparound care during term-time to those that need it most. We will communicate who will be eligible to attend once the restrictions are confirmed.

In the case of on-site attendance restrictions, the school will:

- Ensure remote learning platform is in place and accessible to all.
- That provision is in place for vulnerable children and key worker children to attend (as per national lockdowns).

A copy of the school's Remote Learning Policy, which will apply, is available on the school website.

Education workforce

If restrictions on child, pupil and student attendance are needed, senior leaders to determine the workforce required onsite and if it is appropriate for some staff to work remotely. Employers will have regard for governmental guidance for CEV staff.

Safeguarding

- Child Protection Policy to continue to reflect local restrictions to remain effective
- The school is to have a trained DSL on-site
- Where vulnerable children are absent, the school will ensure alternative arrangements are in place that will safeguard vulnerable children, in line with the DfE's [Contingency Framework for schools](#).

School meals

The school will continue to provide free school meals support in the form of lunch

		parcels/vouchers for pupils who are eligible for benefits related free school meals and who are not attending school
SELF-ISOLATION OF CLOSE CONTACTS	In some cases, health protection teams may recommend that a number of other pupils self-isolate at home as a precautionary measure. This could be the class or year group.	Attendance restrictions will only be considered as a last resort and in collaboration with Public Health Protection teams. In the case of self-isolation measures, the school will ensure remote learning provision is in place.
ENHANCED / TARGETED TESTING	When a variant of COVID-19 is classed as a 'variant of concern', the DHSC will increase targeted testing in that area to help suppress and control any possible new cases and better understand the new variants. Additional testing may be recommended to pick up any asymptomatic testing in the school community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of increased testing across the school community • Letter to parents re. testing • Testing of contacts of positive cases
MINIMISED MIXING OF GROUPS	Temporary re-introduction of year/class bubbles, for a temporary period to reduce mixing between groups.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strict class bubbles re-implemented • Staggered entrance/ exit times will be re-implemented • Use of multiple entrances and exits will be re-implemented • Staggered/ limited use of communal areas- hall/ dining room will be re-implemented
FACE-COVERINGS	Temporary re-introduction of face coverings in wider areas around the school, e.g. on the school gate. In all cases any educational drawbacks in the recommended use of face coverings should be balanced with the benefits in managing transmission and should allow for reasonable exemptions for their use.	Face coverings must be worn by staff and visitors, in communal areas unless they are exempt. Face coverings will not be worn by pupils
LIMITING SCHOOL EVENTS	Temporary limit to certain school activities; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • educational visits, including residential • open days • transition and taster days • visitors to school / parental attendance in settings • assemblies / performances in settings • whole-school events 	These will all be risk assessed and control measures put in place as and when required.
SHIELDING	Temporary re-introduction of shielding in the event of a major outbreak or variant of concern that poses a significant risk to individuals on the shielded patient list.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shielding can only be re-introduced by national government. • Individual risk assessments will be reviewed, specifically in line with any updated government guidance regarding VoCs. • Remote learning platform in place for children who are advised to shield.